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Sigma Phi Epsilon
Journal



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J. B. Bushnell

THE SIGMA PHI EPSILON JOURNAL.

VOL. III.

MARCH 1, 1906.

No. 3.

Contributions.

Individuality Versus Family.

A great many mistakes, I believe, are due to the so frequently adopted method of investigating a man's family connections as a means of determining his eligibility to become a member of some particular body. By this it is not assumed that family prestige has not its advantages. On the contrary, it should be one of the principal, if not primary, considerations. But, as is often the case, the consideration of family prestige leads to the exclusion of a man's own individuality, which, if he possess it to any noticeable degree, is preferable to a lineage dating from the Pharaohs of Egypt down to King Edward.

To show one of the weaknesses of family prestige as a recommendation, it inevitably entails comparison. For instance, a man heralded as a scion of a celebrated family will be compared with some illustrious ancestor in a way calculated to make him feel, should he be so unfortunate as to overhear, inexpressibly diminutive. How often do we hear such expressions as these : "Would you believe him to be the son (or grandson) of Julius Caesar Smith ?" This, of course, relates to that sycophantic clique who "bend the pregnant knee" in hero-worship. And that they are generally disappointed in the descendant of a celebrity is due, I believe, to the impression that one great mind absorbs all the better part of the brain matter of his generations, past and future.

But there is yet another set of family-prestige advocates. They are those who put aside your apprehensions by the assurance that So-and-So is of "good people." This set has its humorous as well as its inconsistent side. On being informed that So-and-So is of "good people," whose names you have not before heard, your natural impulse will be to inquire as to where this especial family is located. When you are told that their residence is Economy Corners, or some such place of remote geographical certainty, you cannot refrain from smiling. Now, if an observance of the law and a reverence for the church entitles one's family to the distinction of "good people," then there are very few bad ones, since we exempt anarchists and atheists from this argument. Certainly when a person comes of a Christian family it is presumable that he is well-bred. Although this would seem often repudiated in one's actions, yet it is a good supposition. Apart from this, however, the family prestige has little practical value.

Individuality, on the other hand, relies upon nothing but its own independence. The pages of history are emblazoned with the names of those who came of comparatively obscure, if not—as in some instances—unknown parentage. Napoleon Bonaparte was of humble parentage, while of Shakespeare's family only the most vague facts can be obtained. It was the individuality in these, as in countless other great men, that asserted itself and surmounted all minor prejudices.

Examine a man unbiasedly, and ascertain if he possesses some distinguishing trait that will either attract your attention or elicit your admiration. If you discover such a man, he must necessarily possess a certain amount of individuality, be it great or small. This man of individuality is an integral part; the man of family a component part, depending upon this and that to help complete his own imperfect construction. Let us, therefore, look for this man, whose inherent qualities set him out in relief against that dark, desolate background of men of family only. It must be admitted that individuality and family form a strong combination, and, together, are decidedly preferable; but if it comes to

a sacrifice of one of them, let it be the family. As the world wants the man of individuality, so Sigma Phi Epsilon wants him, it remaining with this Fraternity to look *him* up—not his family.

ALUMNI.

The Relationship of the Honorary Members to the Fraternity.

[The conditions which exist in Medical Colleges relative to honorary members are so different from those in Academic Colleges that this article has less general application than it would seem was intended by the writer.—ED.]

This relationship is, I believe, in a more unsatisfactory condition than that of our alumni. If we are honest with ourselves, we must admit that the benefit, or rather assistance, which a Chapter expects to derive from its honorary members, has not, except in isolated—which are at the same time prominent—instances, materialized to any practical extent.

Generally an honorary member, after taking his obligation, lapses into a somnolent condition as far as his interest in the active affairs of the Fraternity are concerned. Occasionally, however, some show spasmodic signs of life. At our social functions and initiations, the preparation for which means toil and expense for the already over-worked active members, we always look for our honorary members. It is then we feel proud of them. They add a dignity to the organization which is impressive to new members and the public. I am sure that there is not an honorary member on the roll of Sigma Phi Epsilon that we are not proud of, and that we do not feel proud of having with us. But I also feel that this matter is not all on one side.

Nothing can be demanded from an honorary member of any organization, nor is anything expected from one, unless willingly given. I feel that an honorary member, no matter how exalted or dignified his position, adds to these graces by becoming one of us. This Fraternity is a national organization, standing with the best in the country. Its standard of moral obligations, scholastic attainments, gentlemanly instincts, and social relations are of

the loftiest type. This standard of excellence, it may be said to the credit of our Fraternity, and as a happy augury for its future solidity and progress, has been brought about solely by the individual worthiness of the rank and file of its active members.

With these facts in mind, I maintain that our honorary members have reason to feel proud that they have been invited to become members of our Fraternity. I feel that they should take a more kindly interest in the Fraternity's welfare than they now, as a rule, manifest. It is conceded that there are some honorary members so cognizant of the real fraternal feeling, and their power to help, that they never pass an opportunity to help along the cause. There are a few of this kind in the Chapter that I have the honor to be a member of, and all due appreciation is rendered them for their generosity and fraternal aid.

It appears that a great many of our honorary members and alumni do not subscribe to our official publication, THE JOURNAL. On account of the lack of support from inactive members this publication does not support itself. Owing to the lack of interesting articles and treatises, which our honorary members and alumni are best qualified to write, it is not as interesting as it should be. Brother Kuznik, of the Beta Alpha Chapter, is one of the very few honorary members who has treated us with an article. It was certainly very interesting and instructive, and lead us away for awhile from the hum-drum Chapter letter, which, at its best, is bound to savor of sameness.

Members of the Faculty of the respective colleges where our Chapters are located form the major portion of our honorary membership. An article in our JOURNAL, by a member of the Faculty of any one of our Chapter Colleges will certainly make us feel proud of our honorary members. It has been suggested by some that our honorary members be requested to purchase pins and wear them. While the cost is nominal, it could hardly be expected, unless such honorary member was more than passingly interested. Action of this kind, though, would be of great help to the Chapter.

One Chapter, some time ago, was in a difficult financial sit-

CONTRIBUTIONS.

uation, which fact came to the ears of an honorary member, who immediately offered his assistance. The Chapter pulled through without it. This is a case where his willingness encouraged the Chapter as much as his financial assistance would have done. I have never been to a business meeting of a Chapter and found an honorary member there. I know that some do attend at times. Their presence at Chapter meetings is almost as encouraging as the offer of assistance mentioned above. There is no doubt that at every meeting their suggestions would be a great help. One thing is sure, the members of the Chapter would be delighted to see them.

It will be seen that the honorary members could, in many ways, confer great benefits on their respective Chapters, without sacrificing much. This would mean another stone added to the foundation of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Could our honorary members make it evident that they were thus interested in our welfare, our Chapters would have little or no trouble in securing for members the very choicest men, notwithstanding the fact that our resources have only just begun to be developed, and, by its continuance and every one doing his part, there is no height to which Sigma Phi Epsilon cannot climb.



Chapter Letters.

Alpha.

Richmond College.

Meets in Hall on Campus every Monday evening.

Alpha wishes that something else besides honors and football and base-ball, etc., might be found to write to her sister Chapters about, but it is one of the hardest of tasks to keep out of a rut in writing a Chapter letter.

We might write about our love for each other, but as we are not sweethearts, just sisters, love-letters would scarcely be appreciated. We are glad to greet every Sigma Phi Epsilon again through our JOURNAL, though, and wish to every Chapter the success which Alpha has thus far enjoyed.

Since our last letter we have obtained two honors in literary lines. Brother J. S. Kahle was elected President of the Mu Sigma Rho Literary Society, and Brother Phillips was elected Censor of the same organization.

Brother Webster was greatly missed by us for a week, when he went to Syracuse to install a new Chapter. Alpha feels that she voices the sentiment of every Chapter when she extends to our new brothers a hearty welcome among us.

We hope to see good letters from every Chapter in this JOURNAL, and soon to greet our sister Chapter through their representatives to our Conclave.

Fraternally yours,

SAMUEL K. PHILLIPS.

Gamma Beta.

University of West Virginia.

Gamma Beta sends greetings to her sister Chapters.

This Chapter is in a flourishing condition. We have thirteen members and three pledges. The latest pledge is George Linn, of Charlestown, West Virginia.

Brother West is a member of the Monticola Board. He was also elected student representative of the Athletic Association.

Brother Wilson is getting into condition for the track team. He is the best hammer thrower that has ever been at West Virginia.

Basket-ball season is on, and base-ball practice will start next week in the cage. Brother Gorby is captain of the Reserves. In the spring term we expect several of our old pledges who can play ball.

Our winter initiation will take place in a few days. Several good men are in sight for members and pledges. There are eight other Fraternities here, and it is hard to get men that come up to our standard. We are looking for good preps. to pledge, so they will be ready to initiate as the others drop out.

Gamma Beta sympathizes with Delta. Such things happen sometimes, and we hope that our sister Chapter will speedily recover from the effects of her recent trouble.

Gamma Beta welcomes her new sister at Syracuse University. We hope that the work of extension will continue.

Now is the time for Chapters to get to work and pledge a few good men. A man should surely show some worth in five months' time. By doing this we build up the Fraternity and place it upon a more solid foundation. Let every Sigma Phi Epsilon get to work in the interest of the Fraternity, and place her where she should be. Every one should be proud to think that his Chapter is the best, and ought to work for it. Chapter pride is Fraternity pride. In this way, while you are building your Chapter, you also build the Fraternity. Let the Heart be the standard. Work for it and Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Gamma Beta will be pleased to exchange college pennants with other Chapters.

Fraternally,

THOMAS J. RAMAGE.

Delta Beta.

Jefferson Medical College.

To all our brothers in Sigma Phi Epsilon, Greeting: Many days have gone by since last I wrote to THE JOURNAL, and, of the few happenings in that time, I may say that some are forgotten. What my overloaded brain can recall for me, I will tell you.

The Christmas vacation has ended, and the year is well on towards its end. All is work, grind, drag, and plug away to tear to pieces the tough food which is handed out to us here. Our thinking caps are pulled tight on our heads; but we take them off every now and then for the benefit of some untamed goats which still run wild and unshackled. Not that any have been brought into this fold, but we have been furnished much pleasure and vigorous exercise in taming some animals from the University. They were very warmly petted, and given a plenty to eat and drink.

The visit of Brother Oliver at our Chapter house gave us much pleasure and enthusiasm, and I am sure that the Chapter at the University was greatly benefited.

Brother Webster, too, gave us the pleasure of a short stay at the beginning and at the end of his trip to Syracuse. We want him to come again, and whenever any of our brothers are in Philadelphia we will be only too glad to entertain them to the best of our ability at the Chapter house. Brother Webster talked to us on Fraternity matters, and explained quite a few things to us which were not clear before. It would be a blessing indeed if he could visit each Chapter and talk to the men as he did to us. Had I the necessary libation at hand I would toast to him in a most extraordinary manner, as most befits the man himself, as a most extraordinary member of our brotherhood.

This afternoon I had the extreme pleasure of visiting the home of Brother "Daddy" Powell. Seven months a father, at the time of writing, he seems to be the happiest man alive. But there is a woman who is just as happy. The little tot, a girl, is the first little daughter of this Chapter, and all who have seen

hēr are as proud of her as "dad" and mother. Both have promised to bring her down to the house some day, and have dinner with us. Then she will meet us all, and what a pic-nic it will be! Here's a health to "dad" Powell, mother Powell, and the little daughter Powell, the first baby of Delta Beta.

But, hark! I hear the wedding bells ringing again. Now the organ, in magnificent harmony, pours out Mendelssohn's "Wedding March," and the bride and groom are marching out, with tears of joy sparkling over their entire countenances. What a longing is in my heart at this moment to be there! What a wonderful gathering there will be! Mace, our idol, our orator and entertainer, is to be married on the fifteenth of February. May it be painted in letters of gold and purple over the landscape of our view.

We all expect to be there on Thursday to toast Brother Mace and his beautiful wife over the merry punch-bowl. The couple carry with them our best wishes for a long life and a merry one; and we know from the signs that he has a bright and glittering future depicted for him.

The principal topic about the house at present is the relative merits and demerits of English bull-dogs. The controversy waxes with the greatest warmth between Brothers Smith and Hughes as to whose dog is the best fighter. Smith has raised about a dozen here at the house, and Hughes bought one for his girl, whoever she may be. The laurels are about even. If any of the Chapters desire to purchase a mascot they may place orders nine weeks in advance with Brother Smith. The goods will be delivered in good condition C. O. D., with ten days trial. This is no advertisement for Smith, but just a suggestion to the Chapters.

Brothers Hawkinson and Higginbotham have recently received appointments as internes at the Passavant Memorial and St. Ann Hospitals, respectively. We are pleased with this, as they are both worthy brothers and it is an honor to the Fraternity to have such men to represent it.

Brother Winset, who for the past six months has been con-

nected with an Iowa hospital, has severed his connection with that institution and is now here, visiting old friends and looking for a location.

Brother Harwood has received an appointment as Senior House Surgeon at the College, which is a very honorable as well as a beneficial position.

We have five Fraternities in college, all of which are striving for these positions, but we have been as successful as any.

Fraternally yours,

CHAPTER CORRESPONDENT.

Delta Gamma.

Western University of Pennsylvania.
Fraternity Hall, 3032 Brereton Avenue.

To all sister Chapters of Sigma Phi Epsilon the Delta Gamma extends her greetings.

After a two weeks' vacation we are back to our studies again, with the determination to do better work in the last part of the session than in the first, not only in the class-room, but also in behalf of our Fraternity.

Since our last letter we have pledged seven of the best students in the Freshman class, who will be initiated at our regular initiation in March, and it is with pleasure that we introduce them to the Fraternity at large: A. F. Upper, C. R. McKinney, J. M. Risbick, L. B. Crumrine, C. M. Blakely, F. G. Patterson, W. W. Sprowls, which makes a total of seventeen for the present session. Delta Gamma is certainly growing, and stands second to none of the Fraternities of the Medical Department.

Brother Noonan, of the Senior class, was recently elected a member of the Students' Athletic Association, a new organization in this department of the University.

We are sorry to state that Brother O'Hagan, of the Junior class, is suffering with typhoid fever, but trust he will soon be with us again.

The Freshman class has honored Sigma Phi Epsilon by electing Brother McLellan, President. "Mack" is a first-class fellow, and will handle the affairs of the class in a way that will be a credit not only to himself but to the Fraternity. Brother McLellan has also been elected Treasurer of this Chapter, to succeed Brother Duffy.

Our Chapter gave a smoker in its hall on Brereton avenue on the evening of Lincoln's birthday. Events of this kind are always welcomed, the boys looking forward to them as being something out of the regular routine of college life.

We hope to have a cut of the members of our Chapter in the next issue of THE JOURNAL, so that our sister Chapters may see the crowd of boys who represent Sigma Phi Epsilon here.

Hoping that the remainder of the session will be both pleasant and profitable to the entire Fraternity, I will close.

Fraternally yours,

B. L. COWEN.

Beta Alpha.

University of Illinois.

It is again with pleasure that we greet our brothers in Sigma Phi Epsilon.

We have been quite busy since our last letter to THE JOURNAL.

On Friday evening, February 9th, we initiated four young men into the secrets of Sigma Phi Epsilon: S. B. Norris, of the Sophomore class, G. E. Eck, S. L. Gobby, and B. A. Harrison, of the Freshman class.

We met these young men early in the autumn, and since that time have invited them to our Fraternity house on numerous occasions. They have always carried themselves like gentlemen, both in school and out, and we believe they are made of the right kind of material, and that they will be a credit to the great brotherhood of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Our initiation committee took charge of affairs at 5 o'clock, everything being so that the entire program was carried out within the Fraternity house.

At 8 o'clock we were all assembled in the banquet-room at the "Tip Top Inn," where we were met by those of our alumni and honorary members who had responded to our invitation to be present.

During the evening speeches were made, the subject under discussion being "Ways and means by which the alumni and honorary members may be brought into closer relationship with the active members of the Chapter."

The talks by Doctors Deacon and Oaks, representing the alumni, and by Doctors Benson and Eisenstaedt, representing the honorary members, were of especial interest.

It was suggested by one of our honorary members that they be allowed to send one of their members to the next Grand Conclave as a delegate of the honorary members, such delegate to have the privilege of participating in the transaction of business, the same as the other delegates; of course it being understood that each Chapter be allowed the same privilege, if it be the desire of the Fraternity that such action be taken.

Our honorary members gladly offered to defray the expenses of one of their members if they be allowed to send such delegate to the Conclave.

We believe that this should receive the thoughtful consideration of every one of the members of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

There is no doubt in our minds that if such a movement be rightly handled it would result in much benefit to the Fraternity at large, as well as to each individual Chapter.

It might be well to mention here that it was the unanimous belief of all those present at the banquet that the Grand Conclave should not be postponed until fall, but that it should be held some time before the close of the present college term.

The table is the main feature now with us, and we enjoy each other's company over the final cup of coffee and cigarettes. We only hope that some of our brothers will blow in some time and take a meal with us.

The Fraternity has an orchestra of its own, consisting of violin, piano, flute and cello, and the strains which proceed from this combination often fill the house with echoes weird, not to say painful. Come and hear us, and we will torture your auditory nerves as they were never tortured before.

But, seriously, the Chapter is in a flourishing condition, and I believe that each and every brother has its best interests at heart.

Wishing all the height of success, I am, in the name of the Chapter,

Yours,

WILLIAM H. HINKEL.

Epsilon Alpha.

University of Colorado.

To all sister Chapters of Sigma Phi Epsilon, Greeting: Since our last letter to THE JOURNAL every member of Epsilon Alpha has been active in University and Fraternity affairs. Much interest is being taken by all our members in the regular meetings, and, because of this undivided interest, the meetings are becoming better.

Two new pledges have been secured, Frederick W. Siegmund, from Huntington, Indiana, and William Lowther, from Manitou, Colorado. Both are very excellent men and will make good additions to the Fraternity. The former was on the 'Varsity eleven last season; and will make a star player next season.

We are glad to tell our sister Chapters that we are making headway in the formation of an Alumni Association that will be of great aid to the Fraternity Chapter here in the future.

With best wishes to our sister Chapters, I will close.

Yours fraternally,

W. W. ROBBINS.

Delta.

William and Mary College.

We are glad to greet our sister Chapters once more through THE JOURNAL.

The ordeals of examinations are over and all feel comfortable, though never satisfied with the results. There has been nothing but work, work, work, since we reached college, after such a pleasant stay at home with friends and relatives. Those delicious boxes have long been gone, but those heart-rending hand-shakes still remain to urge us forward into worlds unknown.

As we entered upon the new year many noble resolutions were made ; still to gaze upon our chosen few you would wonder why they should be necessary. Though deficient we may seem, it is our predominant motto, as Sigma Phi Epsilons, to be ever up and doing—not to be content until the topmost round of the ladder has been reached. History tells us how some great hero rises to meet every emergency. Sigma Phi Epsilon is this hero of our college life. No matter how distant or difficult may be the theme of our ambition, she is ever on the alert and proves herself equal to any task.

Brother B. A. Warriner is back with us again, after two months' sickness at his home in Amelia county. We are delighted to have his smiling face once more in our midst. Brother Warriner was an officer of the graduating class, but owing to his misfortunes he will not be able to apply for his degree.

We are also glad to welcome Brother Flannagan again as one of our jolly boys. He was at college last year and did fine work, but he did not return the first half of the session. We met Brother Flannagan with much wonder, for only a few old men had ever seen him. But that wonder soon turned into ecstasy as we read the stalwart manhood in his whole personality.

Affairs did not run very smoothly at Delta during the first few months of the session. All arose as a man and cast off the mill-stone about our necks.

We wish to notify the Fraternity at large that we have expelled T. J. Kingman and J. H. George for not being fit characters to be numbered as Sigma Phi Epsilons. Neither of the men are at college, and we are anxious that every Sigma Phi Epsilon should know of our action.

After much rest Delta's goat has become much stronger than usual, and at our last meeting he succeeded in butting Mr. W. L. Beazley, of Caroline county, into the mysteries of Sigma Phi Epsilon. This is Brother Beazley's first year at college; yet we feel confident that we have in him a good Fraternity man, one that we would be glad to meet in the future.

There seems to have been some indifference on the part of the Chapters at large in regard to writing the regular Chapter letters. We trust, however, that we shall all feel more sensibly the vast importance of writing these letters in the future, as it is the only medium through which we can share each other's joys, and certainly a potent factor in binding together our grand brotherhood.

With best wishes and brotherly love from Delta, I remain,
Yours fraternally,

J. H. BOWEN.

Eta Beta.

North Carolina Agricultural and Mechanical College.

Since our last letter there has been very little doing in Fraternity circles here. We regret to say, however, that quite a number of Fraternity men have withdrawn from College, but it is a pleasure to know that Eta Beta has not lost a man. We believe that the strong brotherly feeling existing between the members of our Chapter makes college life much more pleasant and the duties and responsibilities easier to bear.

Of the five Fraternities here, there is only one that has more active members in their Chapter than we have, and, though we do

not say it in a boastful way, we are not surpassed by any of them in holding college honors.

Two of our men have recently been re-elected as Marshals for the next commencement. They are Brothers J. L. Hemphill, of the Junior class, and W. R. Hampton, of the Freshman class.

There is one thing we wish to speak of, and we hope the brothers will not consider it out of place. It is concerning the number of Chapter letters in THE JOURNAL. We are very sorry to see that in the last two issues of THE JOURNAL there were so few Chapter letters. It is true, as Brother Deacon has said in the Christmas issue, that Chapter letters alone will not make a good JOURNAL, but we believe that the existence and growth of a Fraternity depends upon the Fraternity spirit in the active Chapters, and this spirit is determined partly by their active interest in THE JOURNAL. If you do not send in your Chapter letters, it shows one of two things—that you have not the proper spirit, or else you think what you have to say will not interest others. If the former is true, it is very deplorable, and some plan should be instituted to put more spirit in you. If the latter is true, you are laboring under a great mistake, for we believe that, no matter what you have to say, it will be read with interest by every Brother Sigma Phi Epsilon. No matter how short the letter, or how little the news it contains—the effort you have made in writing it shows that you have the proper spirit, and that you will be a true worker for the Fraternity. Let us do our part, and it will encourage Brother Phillips in his work. What a pleasure it would be to see a letter from every Chapter in the next issue! It requires very little effort; then why not have it?

There is one other suggestion that we should like to make, that is, that each Chapter correspondent shall send with his letter for the May number a "cut" of his Chapter group for THE JOURNAL. This would not be much trouble, because practically all of the Chapters have had "cuts" made for their College Annual.

It is not very long until the next Conclave, and we hope that every Chapter will be represented. We intend to send a repre-

sentative. Our Chapter is looking forward with interest to the event, and hopes that great good will be accomplished.

With best wishes for every Brother Sigma Phi Epsilon, I will close.

Fraternally yours,

JOSEPH P. LOVILL.

Kappa Alpha.

Syracuse University.

It is with much pleasure and deep gratitude that Kappa Alpha sends her first greeting to her sister Chapters of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

It is known probably to all the Chapters that Brother Webster, of Richmond, conducted our installation. We wish to say that seldom have we met a man whom we liked so thoroughly. During his stay in Syracuse we all came to admire and love him as if we had known him all our lives. We feel that the ideals which he set before us are true, and, if followed, will make any Fraternity great. It is our privilege to apply them in our Fraternity life.

As a young Chapter we feel that we have many obstacles to overcome. We must gain the recognition of the other Fraternities, and the respect of the student body in general. But we feel that we already have the latter, and that we are rapidly gaining the former. Members of other Fraternities are coming to us every day with their congratulations. Steady, consistent work for the sake of Sigma Phi Epsilon and *Alma Mater* will surely bring its reward of added respect and recognition.

Our Chapter at present has sixteen members, most of them rooming here, and all but one taking their meals here in the house. The house, however, is much too small for convenience, and we are on the lookout for a larger one for next year. We want a house capable of accommodating twenty-five men, for we expect to increase to that number by next fall.

In this, our first letter, it were well, perhaps, to give our members a formal introduction to the brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon. Kappa Alpha now makes her nicest bow.

1906.

John C. Griffin.

Harry D. Stokes.

Robert M. Patterson.

1907.

Roy E. Wilson.

Loren W. Chester.

Ralph M. Pierce.

Walter White.

Raymond G. Perkins.

Leo E. Fox.

1908.

Harry G. Cooper.

Schuyler W. Horton.

1909.

George D. Beckwith.

Harry J. Carman.

Irving C. Mathews.

E. LeVerne Longyear.

Victor H. Clearwater.

Brother Perkins is doing good work as head of the missionary department of the Y. M. C. A. Brother Wilson made his block S on the base-ball team last year, and we expect to see him hold down first base again this year. Brother Horton is on the staff of the *Daily Orange*, our best college paper. Brother Beckwith is traveling with the University Glee Club, and Brother Carman is one of the executive committee of the Freshman class.

A word here concerning our University would not, we trust, be amiss, since it will give the Fraternity at large an idea of the size of the field in which we are working. Syracuse University is one of the most rapidly growing institutions in the world. The number of students this year is about 2,800, and the endowment is nearly \$5,000,000. There are, at present, twelve college buildings belonging to the University, besides the largest business block in the city. Three more very fine buildings are in process of erection. These are an engineering laboratory costing \$250,000, a natural history building worth about the same, and a \$200,000 Carnegie Library. As soon as it is possible to begin work in the spring, the dormitory for men and a chemistry laboratory will be

started. Last, but not least, comes our new Stadium, which will be the second largest in the world, having a seating capacity of about 20,000. We expect this to be finished by the time college opens next fall.

We take great pride in our University and in Sigma Phi Epsilon, and we hope, in the future, to do honor to both.

With best wishes for the welfare and prosperity of Sigma Phi Epsilon, I am,

Fraternally yours,

LOREN W. CHESTER.

Iota Alpha.

Purdue University.

To our sister Chapters of Sigma Phi Epsilon we extend our heartiest greetings. Although this is our first letter to THE JOURNAL, we have been reading that paper for several months, and feel justly proud of it.

It has been nearly a year now since Brother Phillips visited us and gave us our first intimate knowledge of Sigma Phi Epsilon. Since that time our petition has been before the Faculty, and was acted upon only recently.

Our Faculty is not very favorable towards Fraternities, and a petition has to be filed with them for six months before they take notice of it. It is then brought up and the national Fraternity and local Chapter are carefully looked into, after which the committee submits it to the Faculty for action.

Our petition last year was signed by the following men, who are charter members of the Chapter : J. E. Ulrich, '05, Louisville, Ky. ; F. D. Ritter, '05, Elkhart, Indiana ; H. C. Wehnert, '05, Fort Wayne, Indiana, W. C. Sprau, '06, Sandusky, Ohio ; F. S. Robbins, '06, Millville, N. J. ; H. H. Rutledge, '06, Knightstown, Indiana ; E. S. Barnum, '06, Louisville, Ky. ; E. J. Clerget, '07,

Louisville, Ky.; W. G. Duncan, '07, Greenville, Ky.; R. J. Gillan, '07, St. Thomas, Pa.; G. B. McNair, '07, Louisville, Ky.

One of our alumni members, J. E. Ulrich, is back with us this year, and is taking considerable interest in the affairs of the Chapter.

We have eight of our charter members back with us this year, and also the following men who have been initiated into Sigma Phi Epsilon : C. T. Brown, '06, LaFayette, Indiana; J. E. Poindexter, '06, Jeffersonville, Indiana; J. F. Voigt, '08, Jeffersonville, Indiana; B. K. Lucas, '08, Princeton, Indiana; T. F. Strain, '08, Princeton, Indiana; M. R. B. Keller, '08, Louisville, Ky.

We have also five Freshmen, "spikes" of whom we feel justly proud : J. K. Bayard, Kittanning, Pa.; A. O. Bennett, Oakland City, Indiana; J. C. Lewis, St. Louis, Missouri; B. R. Lewis, St. Louis, Missouri; L. V. Sheridan, Frankfort, Indiana.

Although at the present time we have not been publicly installed, we hope to be within the next week.

Brother Deacon, an alumni member of Beta Alpha, has kindly consented to come down from Chicago and install us.

Our initial banquet will be held at one of the clubs in the city, and the enthusiasm for Sigma Phi Epsilon will be high.

We of Iota Alpha Chapter hope to uphold the glory and honor of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Yours fraternally,

J. E. POINDEXTER.





Editorials.

The Charter Committee report the granting of a charter to a body of students at Purdue University. The installation will take place early this month.

The photo of our new Chapter, Kappa Alpha, did not arrive in time to be published in this issue. We will present it, along with Iota Alpha, in the May issue.

The first editorial in the December (1904) issue is one that we hope every member of Sigma Phi Epsilon will re-read, and then act.

The Delta Beta letter, in our last issue, should have been headed "Jefferson Medical College." We are sorry to make it appear that "Jeff." neglected to send in her letter, as she is usually very prompt.

Our Alumni is the backbone of the Fraternity. The interest shown by our Chicago brothers will no doubt be hailed with delight by the Fraternity at large. It is our most earnest wish that every alumnus will become interested.

In Beta Alpha's letter in this issue there is a suggestion that our Alumni and Honorary Members be granted full privileges at our Conclaves. In view of the fact that we have started the

movement of re-interesting these branches of our organization, there is no doubt but what our Grand Council will grant the request, if presented.

The long-looked-for settlement in regard to membership certificates has been made, and any one desiring a certificate can obtain it by sending \$1.25 to their Chapter Secretary, or to William L. Phillips, 14 north Seventh street, Richmond, Va. It is desired that members order them through their Chapter Secretaries.

The article by Brother Deacon, in the December JOURNAL, has aroused the interest desired. Some might think that that is all that is necessary. This article simply lays the foundation for this work. Every Chapter should adopt the plan that is best suited to its conditions for keeping in touch with its Alumni. The sooner our members, as individuals and as Chapters, realize that our Fraternity life does not really begin until after we leave college, the quicker they will begin to do their part toward our real advancement.

It is hoped that the article by Brother Deacon in this number will enliven some of our willing, but dormant Honorary Members.

Will U B There?

If you can possibly come, we are sure that you will be there—Philadelphia, Pa., April 16, 1906, at 9 o'clock in the morning—the Third Conclave of our beloved fraternity.

Delta Beta Chapter has very generously offered the Grand Council the use of its house for the transaction of the Conclave business.

It is of the utmost importance that every Chapter send a delegate. Questions that have been put off since our organiza-

tion must be settled at this meeting, and as these questions are of vital interest to us all, every Chapter should be represented.

We want this Conclave to surpass last spring's rousing meeting. Our new Chapter's delegates will expect to meet a representative from every other Chapter. Come, see, and be seen.

It is useless to try to tell what will be done socially. Those of you who met Brother Kagey at the Richmond Conclave, in December, 1903, and those who met Brother Hughes at the Pittsburg and Washington Conclave, in April, 1905, know that no dull moments can exist near a Chapter of such men. If you are "from Missouri," come and be convinced.

Installation of Kappa Alpha Chapter.

It is with much pleasure that we announce to the Fraternity at large the installation of the first Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon in the State of New York. One charge that cannot be brought against us is the charge of sectionalism. It is our desire to encourage everything that gives breadth of interest and sympathy. Chapters located in all sections of the country, North, South, East, and West, tend to broaden the views and ideals of the brothers. It is a source of congratulation that we have obtained a foot-hold in the Empire State, and especially at Syracuse University.

The institution is one of the most vigorous in the country. It is young, wealthy, and growing. Perhaps the best feature is the apparently almost perfect harmony between the Fraternities. There seems to be none of that "dog in the manger" spirit which characterizes some institutions.

And, finally, we may congratulate ourselves on the men that are now proudly wearing "the heart." A finer or more enthusiastic crowd of men could not be found anywhere. The ties of fraternal love were already in the embryonic state when new life and vigor were instilled into them by the vows of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

The initiatory team was taken right into the Chapter house and made to feel as though they were at the home of an old Chapter, rather than of one that they were about to install.

If the week's work can be reduced to a programme, it would be as follows :

Monday to Wednesday, getting acquainted.

Wednesday night, the initiation of sixteen magnificent men.

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday spent on the secret work.

Friday night, banquet in the house ; enthusiastic speeches by the members of the Grand Council who were present, and by some of the new brothers.

Saturday night the party attended the basket-ball game between Syracuse and Hamilton, after which refreshments were served at the Chapter house, and the charter was formally delivered to the new Chapter. Enthusiasm and good fellowship reigned supreme, and the visitors found themselves swept irresistibly into singing the songs of Syracuse.

In the few short days the brothers came to know and love one another with true Sigma Phi Epsilon love ; and it was with sincere regret that we hurried to our train early Sunday morning.

The boys of Kappa Alpha Chapter modestly feared they might be forgotten unless they gave us some token of the occasion, so they sent us away with some very delightful souvenirs of the happy event.

We look upon this Chapter, with the stalwart material in her, as the main-spring of Fraternity endeavor for the State of New York. We know she will do her share to keep up the high ideals of the Fraternity.

Here's to baby Kappa Alpha,
Here's to her men so true ;
Here's to Kappa Alpha Chapter—
Boys, here's to you.

The Greek Press.

Editor Baird, of *Beta Theta Pi*, copies from the *Independent*, of October 5, 1905, an anonymous article entitled "Good and Evil of College Fraternities." We looked eagerly for some editorial comment on the article, but were disappointed. Nevertheless, there are clearly some evils in the Fraternity system of to-day. The writer in the *Independent* calls our attention to some tendencies that as Sigma Phi Epsilons it behooves us to keep in mind and strive to avoid.

The appeal for consideration of personal worth, found elsewhere in this issue, is supplemented by these words from another Fraternity man, evidently endorsed to a certain extent by Editor Baird :

"In the South, the percentage in rare instances exceeds or reaches fifty per cent., and in the West is seldom so high as forty, is more often twenty than forty, and often still lower. Where the percentage of Fraternity men is small the purely social idea prevails, the man's tailor is a prominent factor in his eligibility real personal worth tends to be disregarded, the literary and educational side of the Chapter is not strongly developed. We understand then why the fraternites are so generally lauded in the East, while in the West and South they have been so often forbidden by Faculties and even by State law."

Not with a spirit of controversy, do we ask ourselves the question of whether or not, then, through the Fraternity system its members have more pleasures than other men because through it these other men have fewer.

The writer speaks of some practices of other Fraternities that it would be wise for all the Chapters, where such is not already the custom, to consider carefully. To quote :

"In a great many Chapters there is a system of supervision over the class-work of the members. In some this merely takes the form of a 'class officer,' chosen to look after the men that are lagging, who counsel with him and his instructors, get his marks, which perhaps are read in meeting. But in some few Chapters the marks of all members are read in meeting; there is

personal exhortation and appeal to personal and Fraternity pride. The Chapters which do this have made remarkable records in scholarship, and wherever you find one that has carried on the system long—and some have been doing it for half a century, and have half a century's marks in their archives—you will find that the alumni list has a notable number of scholars and distinguished men of affairs. Each Chapter teaches social polish, taste in dress, *savoir faire*. Whatever else they fail to do, they all certainly do this."

The evidence that is given in *Beta Theta Pi*, in the Kenyon tragedy, should be sufficient to put an end to further controversy in regard to the cause of Stuart Pierson's death. The whole affair brings up the question of the desirability of horse-play in the Fraternity initiations.

"Two SIDES.—It is said that there are two sides to every question, but upon the subject of proper conduct of Fraternity initiations there can be but one opinion in the minds of sensible men."—*Kappa Alpha Journal*.

Editor Baird's suggestions with regard to the proper course to pursue with members who will not pay up their dues, while decidedly on the strenuous order, is at least effective :

"Occasionally we find an active member of a Chapter who deliberately neglects to fulfill his financial obligations. There is only one remedy for that situation, and that is promptly to expel him. Financial integrity is taken so much to be a matter of course that slight lapses from the path of rectitude in this respect are not regarded as venial sins. But one boy who does not pay his dues can throw confusion into a Chapter's accounts, and especially into the accounts of a house steward, so as to make everybody else in the house uncomfortable. If the house steward is aiming to give to the members the worth of their money, he has, of course, planned his expenditures upon some regular system, and

calculated upon receiving from each the proper amount, which is his due. If, now, he does not receive such an amount, he must either cut down the supplies to his fellow members or make up the deficiency out of his own pocket. Both plans have been tried—unsuccessfully. The only way to deal with a recalcitrant member in such circumstances is to warn him, suspend him, and finally expel him."

Kappa Alpha Journal gives an interesting account of the establishment of a new Chapter of that Fraternity at the University of Oklahoma, in Oklahoma Territory, in November, 1905. They have the distinction of being the first fraternity to enter the Territory.

A word about alumni organizations is always in order. Here is a clipping from Editor Burnley's article "Why Should Alumni Organize?" :

"The moral effect of enthusiastic alumni organizations upon the outside world cannot fail to be great. Without alumni chapters and interest Fraternities are naturally looked upon by the uninitiated as ephemeral school-boy societies. Backed by ardent, enthusiastic, organized alumni, they are recognized as a power in the world, and as having a reason, and a sensible reason, for their existence."



Alumni Notes.

Dr. C. N. Hatfield, Beta Alpha, is located at Fostoria, Ohio.

W. O. Haigler, Gamma, is practicing law at Cameron, S. C.

A. C. Logan, Delta Gamma, is located at Carbon Black, Pa.

W. J. Gossman, Delta, is teaching at McClelland, Va.

Dr. T. J. Kagey, Delta Beta, is practicing at Newport News, Va.

Alpha has two lawyers at Norfolk, Va.—L. B. Cox and E. M. Gathright.

Clyde Ver Beck, Theta Beta, is on the staff of the Washington *Post*, Washington, D. C.

At Crozer Seminary, Chester, Pa., Alpha is represented by Frank Kerfoot and C. A. Jenkens.

Brothers Harry Brenner and G. W. Tehan, of Theta Alpha, are located at Springfield, Ohio.

At Lynn, Mass., Sigma Phi Epsilon is represented by Brothers F. O. Elder, of Delta Beta, and R. R. Oliver and C. H. Howell, of Alpha.

Gamma Beta is represented at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, at Baltimore, by George H. Campbell, Frank E. Flowers, David L. Talkington, I. D. Cole, and A. E. Nolte. Brother Nolte is President of the Soph. class.

Beta Alpha's alumni in Chicago includes Doctors W. H. Bahl, Francis Deacon, R. A. Oakes, D. G. Borges, C. Gunderson, I. A. Gardner, and G. A. Dean. Three are in Iowa—Dr. F. M. Doyle, at Neola; Dr. W. H. Barr, at Carroll, and Dr. F. E. Schriner, at La Porte.

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